GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Public Services – Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Disciplinary Matters – Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District - Allegations of corruption levelled by the Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticides & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada and the Agriculture Department staff of NTR District – Preliminary Inquiry conducted - Prima facie established –Suspension from service – Disciplinary action initiate under A.P. Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Articles of Charge – Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 1032 **Dated: 02-12-2025**

Read the following:

1. From the Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Rc.No.AGC02-32026(32)/12/2024-VIG-AGHROD, dt.29.11.2024.
2. G.O.Rt.No.766, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.11.12.2024.

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O R D E R

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of Articles of Charge (Annexure-I), Statement of imputation of misconduct or misbehaviour on which action is proposed to be taken against her as Annexure-II, a list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the Article of Charge is proposed to be sustained are also enclosed as Annexure-III and IV.

3. Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District is directed to submit a Written Statement of Defense (WSD) within (10) days from the receipt of this order.

4. Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charge as are not admitted. She should therefore, specifically admit or deny each Articles of Charge.

5. Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, is further informed that if she does not submit her Written Statement of Defense (WSD) on or before the date specified in para-3 above, or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 or the orders/directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the Inquiry Authority may hold the inquiry against her exparte.

(P.T.O.)

6. Attention of Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, is invited to rule 24 of the A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further her interest in respect of matters pertaining to her service under the Government. If anyrepresentationis received on her behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with inthese proceedings it will be presumed that she is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action will be taken against her for violation of rule 24 of the A. P.Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

7. The receipt of this G.O. shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
Smt. S.Nagamanemma, DDA, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District
(through the Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur)

Copy to:
The Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur,
(With a request to serve the original G.O. on the Charged Officer and obtain her dated acknowledgement on the Xerox copy and furnish the same along with her Written Statement of Defense (WSD) to the Government)
Sf/Sc.(2509867)

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd. Annexures...)

ANNEXURE-I

Statement of Article of Charge framed against SmtS.Nagamanemma, former District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada :

Article of Charge-I:-

"That the said Smt S. Nagamanemma, Deputy Director of Agriculture while working as District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada, she has used abused language on caste and tried to show the staff low, basing on their caste. Being a responsible District officer, she ought to coordinate with the subordinate staff, but instead of doing so, she herself showed discrimination among staff. Thus Smt. S. Nagamanemma, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada has not devoted to duty and shown negligence in discharging her legitimate duties, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964".

Article of Charge-II:-

"That the said Smt. S.Nagamanemma, Deputy Director of Agriculture, while working as District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada, she has demanded amount from subordinate staff and directed them to credit the amount to the person suggested by her. As per her instructions, the MAO, Vatsavai has credited a total amount of Rs.19,341/- (Rs.4341/- to Bharat Petrol Merchant for filling of diesel to her vehicle, Rs.5000/- to Smt. M.Lalitha, Attender and Rs.5000/- to car mechanic and Rs.5000/- to Sri. Jogi Ramesh, her driver). Thus, Smt. S. Nagamanemma, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada has not devoted to duty and shown negligence in discharging her legitimate duties, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964".

Article of Charge-III:-

"That the said Smt.S. Nagamanemma, Deputy Director of Agriculture, while working as District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada, her action in forwarding the proposals of VAAs to the District Agriculture Officer, Krishna without signing on their record sheets, instructing for drawl of Rs.6.00 lakhs from the funds of Biological Control Laboratory, Ibrahimpatnam without permission from the Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P, and keeping the licenses pending in her e-Office login since long time shows her motive of collecting money. Thus, shows that she has not devoted to duty and shown negligence in discharging her legitimate duties, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964" .

Article of Charge-IV:-

"That the said Smt. S. Nagamanemma, Deputy Director of Agriculture, while working as District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada, she has been demanding money dealers for diesel oil for her vehicle, demanding money for grant of licenses and during inspections and harassing them. During visit of M/s. Jai Hanuman Fertilisers & Seeds, Ammireddygudem (V) of Gampalagudem (M), she demanded Rs.5.00 lakhs and warned to cancel the license, if not paid the amount. As the dealer failed to pay, she cancelled the license and filed criminal case. Thus, Smt. S. Nagamanemma, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada has not devoted to duty and shown negligence in discharging her legitimate duties, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964"

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

(P.T.O.)

ANNEXURE-II

Statement of Imputation of Misconduct or Misbehavior in support of the Articles of Charges framed against Smt S. Nagamanemma, former District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada :

The Office of C&DA, AP, Guntur received the following (02) complaints against Smt. S. Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR District.

1. Complaint of the Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticide & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada , Dated:11.03.2024.

2. Complaint of Agriculture Department staff (44) members of NTR District, Dated:19.08.2024:

I. Main Allegations in the complaint of the Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticide & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada, dt.11.03.2024 :

- Smt S. Nagamanemma, DDA, since appointed as District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, has been insisting her Subordinate Officers to collect Money and Gifts from Fertilizes, Pesticide & Seeds dealers of the district for her gains. If the Subordinate Officers are not agreed for the above, she, herself, has been collecting Rs.10,000 to Rs.15,000 from each shop depending upon the area and turnover of the shop;

- If the dealers are not meeting her demands, those dealers are being threatened to seize their stocks or suspend/ cancel their licenses etc.;

- During her visits/inspections of the dealer outlets, she is demanding the dealers for diesel oil for her vehicle.

- Alleged that during enquiry conducted on the complaint received against M/s. Jai Hanuman Pesticides & Seeds, Ammireddygudem, Gamapalgaudem mandal, she demanded Rs.5.00 lakhs for continue the license without cancellation. When the dealer failed to pay the amount, she cancelled the license.

- Because of treats from the DAO, dealers has complained that they under both financial and mental pressure and unable to attend their business properly.

- While enclosing the copies of complaints of Mandal Level Dealers Associations, the District Association has requested the Spl. Commissioner of Agriculture to examine their complaint and take appropriate action against her and do justice to the dealers of NTR district.

In this regard, the Director of Agriculture has appointed Sri V.D.V. Krupa Das, JDA(inputs), O/o. Commissioner & Director of Agriculture to conduct Inquiry on the complaint of Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticide & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada dt.11.03.2024 and the Enquiry Officer has submitted his report, dated 07.10.2024.

Conclusion of Sri VDV Krupa Das, Inquiry Officer & the JDA(Inputs) , O/o. C&DA, A.P., Guntur on the complaint of the Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticide & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada dt. 11.03.2024 is as follows :

a. The Department is having well established & successful hierarchical arrangement for effective quality control. Defined roles are as follows:-

i. MAO — Mandal Inspectors (Fertilizer, Seeds & Pesticides)
ii. ADA — Sub-Divisional Supervisor & Inspector
iii.DAO — District level Supervisor & Inspector; Licensing Authority

b. Mandal Inspectors are supposed to do intensive inspections of outlets, whereas, Supervisory cadres have to guide the Mandal Inspectors to do enforcement properly and they can inspect randomly.

c. Smt S. Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR district is trying to inspect all the outlets, on her own.

(Contd.p.3)

d. On completion of Inquiry and as per the depositions, it is suspected that Smt. S. Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR district has been asking bribe from the dealers in every visit and all the dealers are afraid about her behavior.

e. Even on the inquiry day, she has attended to the inquiry at 11.48 AM as against the schedule time i.e., 10.30 AM. It is understood that, she is not devoting to her legitimate duty. She has requested in writing to permit to take legal assistance.

Finally, the IO has opined that, SmtS.Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR district seems to be trying to inspect all the outlets like Inspector rather than guiding and supervising the work of Mandal & Sub-Divisional level Officers & Inspectors. This attitude leaving an impression that, she is trying for personal interface with the dealers duly by-passing the lower hierarchy. Thus, *prima facie* impression that allegations leveled against her seems true. Also, attending late for more than an hour to inquiry shows that, she has got no seriousness at her legitimate duties.

II. Main Allegations in the complaint of the Agriculture Departmental staff working in NTR District dt.19.08.2024 :

- Smt S. Nagamanemma, after assumed the post of DAO, NTR district, the working environment within the District Agriculture Department has deteriorated significantly and there now, exists an environment marred by discord, favoritism, and unethical practices.

- As DAO, she has contributed to a toxic workplace by promoting differences, caste conflicts, and encouraging a culture of fear and harassment among the staff.

- **Illegal Collection Practices:** She has engaged in unethical practices, such as, issuing stop-sale notices to dealers for minor infractions, with intentions of soliciting illegal payments in exchange for withdrawing these notices. This has created significant distress among the dealers and damaged the reputation of the department and staff.

- **Harassment of Officers:** She has harassed MAOs and ADAs by issuing baseless memos and applying undue pressure for personal gains, such as forcing them to fuel her vehicle. Those who resist are subjected to further harassment through memos or unfounded RTI applications.

- **Violation of Rules:** She has frequently bypassed established rules and procedures for personal benefit, such as, granting unauthorized leave, transferring staff arbitrarily etc . This has resulted in lack of accountability and disrupted the smooth functioning of the department, particularly affected implementation of important departmental programs like e-Crop Registration and Farmer Welfare Schemes.

- **Unethical Conduct:** She has engaged in various unethical practices, including illegal collections, misuse of departmental resources, and intimidation of staff and her actions not only harmed the morale of field officers and staff, but also, brought disrepute to the department.

- **Mismanagement and Lack of Accountability**: Her mismanagement and disregard on established procedures have led to improper handling of departmental inquiries, resulting in unjust treatment of officers and staff.

- She has consistently ignored the concerns/grievances raised by the staff by representing her in person and over phone.

- The current working environment under the leadership of Ms. Saka Nagamanemma is untenable and her continuous harassment, unethical practices, and violation of rules have made it extremely difficult for the officers and staff to perform their duties effectively.

- Requested for intervention of the Authority in restoring a professional, respectful, and collaborative working environment in NTR District Agriculture Department and in saving the integrity and reputation of the department.

(P.T.O.)

In this connection, the Director of Agriculture has appointed Smt V.V Vijaya Lakshmi, Addl. DA. & Director, ATMA, A.P Guntur to conduct Inquiry on the complaint of Agriculture Department staff of NTR District, Dated: 19.08.2024 and Enquiry Officer has submitted her enquiry report dated 24.09.2024.

Analysis & Conclusion of Smt V. V. Vijayalakshmi, Inquiry Officer & Director, ATMA on the complaint of Agriculture Departmental staff of NTR District dt.19.08.2024 :-

During detailed examination of the complaint made by the staff of Agril. Dept., NTR District and their depositions during the preliminary enquiry dated 20.09.2024, they have projected elaborately before me on the problems under the DAO, Smt S. Nagamanemma.

Thus, one can understand, the issues prevailing between the DAO, Smt S. Nagamanemma and Staff of NTR District and these issues are swiftly arranged to be solved before further blown up at this stage. The Administration in NTR District is not running as per rule book due to irrelevant steps introduced by Smt. S. Nagamanemma as DAO, NTR District, which are hurting the self-respect of the staff and leading to divisionary activities.

Further, Smt. S. Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR District was requested through communication officially to attend the Preliminary Inquiry on the complaint received against her on 20.9.2024. SmtS.Nagamanemma, attended the venue of the enquiry and by handing over a statement and stayed some time and left the place of Enquiry Officer and after some time, sent statement to the Director, ATMA's office through mail by writing irrelevant issues not connected to the preliminary enquiry for which she was asked for attending. She sent another statement of copy on 24.09.2024 by Registered post to the O/o. Director, ATMA, AP, Mangalagiri.

Finally, the Inquiry Officer opined that, there is prima- facie in this instant case by ordering disciplinary action under APCS (CC&A Rules) ,1991 in this episodeto meet the ends of the justice.

III. Enquiry Report of the Collector & District Magistrate, NTR District, Vijayawada, dt:22.11.2024.

As, the Inquiry Officers in both the above complaints have opined that there is prima- facie and allegations leveled against SmtS. Nagamanemma, the then DAO, NTR District are true. Thus, the Director of Agriculture has requested the Collector & District Magistrate, NTR District to conduct a discrete enquiry at their end and submit report.

In reply, the Collector & District Magistrate, NTR District has furnished the Inquiry Report, dated 22.11.2024 stating that, all the allegations leveled against SmtS.Nagamanemma, DAO, NTR seems to be true and correct and hence, recommended to take action against her as per the Rules in force.

From the above it is constructed that, Smt S. Nagamanemma, the then District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada has failed to discharge her duties properly and not devoted to duty and shown negligence in discharging her legitimate duties, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964". Thus Charges.

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III

List of documents by which Article of Charge framed against Smt S. Nagamanemma, former District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada proposed to be sustained:-

1. Complaint of the Krishna District Fertilizers, Pesticides & Seeds Retail Dealers Welfare Association, Vijayawada, Dated:11.03.2024.
2. Complaint of Staff of Agriculture Department, NTR District, Dated:19.08.2024.
3. Preliminary inquiry report of Sri VDV Krupa Das, JDA(Inputs) vide Lr No: Nil, Dated:07.10.2024.
4. Preliminary inquiry report of Smt. V.V. Vijayalakshmi, Addl. D.A. vide Lr. No. ATMA/Inq/ 10/NTR/2024, Dated:24.09.2024.
5. Lr.No.Admn-2/928/2024, Dt:22.11.2024 of the Collector & District Magistrate, NTR District, Vijayawada.

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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ANNEXURE-IV

List of witness by whom Article of Charge farmed against, Smt S. Nagamanemma, former District Agriculture Officer, NTR District, Vijayawada proposed to be sustained.

-NIL-

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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